(b) Yes, Sir. A few flats have been allotted to some officials below and above their category of entitlement. This has been done keeping in view the extreme personal and functional requirements. In cases where allotment has been made in a category higher to the entitled category, the allottee is charged three times the normal licence fee.

(c) There is as of date only one doctor with more than 20 years of service who is residing in a Type-II quarter. His case for allotment of a flat in a higher category can be considered only when a flat in that category falls vacant for allotment.

Robbery in buses in Delhi

840. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned, "15 major robberies in moving buses", which appeared in the Times of India dated 8th January, 1999;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted by Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the preventive steps being taken by Government, keeping in view the deteriorating law and order situation in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, All these cases were registered at the Police Stations concerned and investigation taken up as a result of which the accused were arrested in thirteen cases of which six cases have been put to trial so far.

(d) The Preventive measures taken by Delhi Police, inter-alia, include deployment of police personnel in plain clothes in buses plying on routes considered prone to such incidents; regular checking of buses to deter the criminals; setting up of Special Anti-robbery pickets; and keeping close watch over the activities of known bad characters and anti-social elements.

Bomb blast and other incidents in J and K

841. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of cases of killings, bomb blasts, murders, dacoity, robbery, kidnapping, in Jammu and Kashmir during the period from November, 1998 to 20th February, 1999, date-wise and district-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to control the situation in the State; and

(c) the compensation given to the victims/next of kin so far by the State/Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) As per information provided by the State Government, 259 civilians and 59 Security Forces personnel were killed, and 134 incidents of explosions, 72 abductions and 23 incidents of loot of Government/Private property took place due to militant related violence in Jammu & Kashmir during the period from 1.11.1998 to 15.2.1999. Current statistics related to non-militancy related crimes are not maintained Centrally.

(b) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged strategy for tackling the situation which includes *inter-alia* strengthening of Border Management, gearing up of intelligence machinery, countering plans of militants by pro-active action in the hinterland, protection of minorities, modernistion and upgradation of the State Police with sophisticated weapons and communication equipment, setting up of security outposts at vulnerable locations and constituting Village Defence Committees, etc.

(c) Payment of *ex-gratia* relief by the State Government to the victims of militant violence as per norms is an ongoing

process. The Central Government reimburses to the State Government the amount paid towards such *ex-gratia* relief as part of the security related expenditure. During 1998-99 the State Government has claimed reimbursement of an amount of Rs. 28.20 crores upto December 31, 1998 on account of *ex-gratia* relief disbursed.

Handing over law and order in Delhi to State Government

842. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the law and order situation in Delhi is worsening day-by-day; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government propose to hand over the law and order machinery to the State Government for effective control by the local Administration instead of keeping it?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) The reported IPC-related crime during 1998 in the National Capital Territory of Delhi registered as overall increase of about 6.50 per cent over the proceding year. Delhi Police, however, have had some spectacular achievements in the prevention and detection of crime during 1998. These included a major crackdown on robbers; foiling of attempts to kidnap for ransom in several cases; arrest of large number of hardcore militants and recovery of sizeable quantities of arms and ammunition from them; and successful encounters with certain dreaded gangsters.

(b) The transfer of the administrative control of the law and order machinery to the local Government is linked with the proposal to grant full-fledged Statehood to the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Latest status of Assam package

843. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what has been the latest status of implementation of Assam package, announced by the three successive Prime Ministers during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): The 'New Initiatives' for the North Eastern Region announced by the then Prime Minister in October 1996 include a number of projects for Assam. The latest Status of these projects may be seen at the attached Statement.

Statement

Name of the project	Present position
Rail-Cum-road bridge at JOGIGHOPA	The Rail-cum-road bridge has been completed and inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15th April, 1998.
Rail-cum-road bridge at BOGIBHEEL	The Cabinet approved the project on 10.9.97. The preparation of the detailed project report has been entrusted to M/s. RITES by the Ministry of Railways.
Guwahati Airport	In order to make Guwahati Airport a regional hub as well as an international airport, the Airport Authority of India has initiated action for modernisation/upgradation of the infrastructure facilities in a phased manner.
Three Industrial Growth Centres	The Industrial Growth Centres at Chariduar and Matia have been approved and are under implementation by the State Government. In re-